Renewing Your Passion for God
You must Be Dependent on Him

1 Peter 5:5-7
YOU MUST BE DEPENDENT ON HIM

Introduction...

We continue our series called “Renewing Your Passion for God”

We looked at what it means to have passion for God “deer panting for water”

We looked at the importance of focusing on God and not our problems, hurts, disappointments, etc.
YOU MUST BE DEPENDENT ON HIM

Introduction...

We looked at what it means to know God and His immeasurable love for us.

Focusing on Him above all things and knowing His love for us, we begin to experience His passion for us.

His passion for us leads us to delight in Him.
YOU MUST BE DEPENDENT ON HIM

Introduction...

As our passion and delight in Him grows, we find He gives us the desires of our heart.

We must have a growing relationship with Him and trust in Him.

This passion and delight leads us to the next step—a dependence on Him.
YOU MUST BE DEPENDENT ON HIM

In 1863 President Lincoln designated April 30th as a day of national humiliation, fasting, and prayer...

"It is the duty of nations, as well as of men, who owe their dependence upon the overruling power of God, to confess their sins and transgressions in humble sorrow, yet with assured hope that genuine repentance will lead to mercy and pardon, and to recognize the
YOU MUST BE DEPENDENT ON HIM sublime truth announced in the Holy Scriptures and proven by a history that those nations only are blessed whose God is the Lord. The awful calamity of civil war which now desolates the land may be but a punishment inflicted upon us for our presumptuous sins, to the needful end of our national reformation as a whole people. Intoxicated with
unbroken success, we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us. We have grown in numbers, wealth, and power as no other nation has grown, but we have forgotten God."
YOU MUST BE DEPENDENT ON HIM

Introduction...

This sin of self-sufficiency Lincoln referred to is the same sin that keeps us from becoming dependent upon God.

The world teaches us self-sufficiency and independence as evidence of maturity.

From the time we are born, we hear the same things:
YOU MUST BE DEPENDENT ON HIM

Introduction...

“Be your own boss”

“Own your own business”

“I can do it myself”

There are Self-help books galore

Notice what God has to say about all of this
1 Peter 5:5b-7

“God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble. Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.”
YOU MUST BE DEPENDENT ON HIM

First, God Hates Human Pride ...

God is not impressed with what we can do or even what we’ve done

In fact, He resists the proud

Did you get that?

lit. “Sets Himself against”

Pride keeps people from coming to God

They don’t recognize their need
Philippians 4:13

“I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”
YOU MUST BE DEPENDENT ON HIM

First, God Hates Human Pride ...

Many Christians have memorized this

It is both true and misunderstood

We can do whatever God calls us to do through His power and strength

For many it seems to exalt what they can do because they forget where God fits in

Think about it this way
Deuteronomy 8:11-17

“Beware that you do not forget the Lord your God by not keeping His commandments, His judgments, and His statutes which I command you today, lest—when you have eaten and are full, and have built beautiful houses and dwell in them; and when your herds
Deuteronomy 8:11-17

and your flocks multiply, and your silver and your gold are multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied; when your heart is lifted up, and you forget the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage; who led you
through that great and terrible wilderness, in which were fiery serpents and scorpions and thirsty land where there was no water; who brought water for you out of the flinty rock; who fed you in the wilderness with manna, which your fathers did not know, that He
Deuteronomy 8:11-17

might humble you and that He might test you, to do you good in the end—then you say in your heart, ‘My power and the might of my hand have gained me this wealth.’”
YOU MUST BE DEPENDENT ON HIM

First, God Hates Human Pride ...

This problem of leaving God out of the equation seems to be timeless

It was for the children of Israel

It is so common today

We are good at “patting ourselves on the back”

We need to remember this...
John 15:5

“I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.”
YOU MUST BE DEPENDENT ON HIM

First, God Hates Human Pride ...

John 15:5 should be an antidote for such spiritual pride

We recognize the helplessness of our sinful condition and come to Him by faith fully relying upon His salvation

But then think we can take care of the rest of our lives

We must recognize our need for Him
YOU MUST BE DEPENDENT ON HIM

Beloved...

DEPENDENCY

It's what God wants from you.
2 Chronicles 7:14

“if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.”
YOU MUST BE DEPENDENT ON HIM

God Rewards the Humble...

True humility means we have no faith in our own ability

True humility means we recognize our own inability

True humility means we get to the place where we understand this truth— “I can’t, but He can”
YOU MUST BE DEPENDENT ON HIM

God Rewards the Humble...

True humility means we cast ALL our cares on Him

We recognize our needs

We recognize our inability to meet our needs

We trust His ability to do what we can’t

We declare our dependence on Him
YOU MUST BE DEPENDENT ON HIM

For you and me...

We must come to recognize our pride
hinders a true passion for God

Our pride exalts us

Our pride seeks glory for ourselves

We must completely surrender to Him in
all humility, declaring our dependence on
Him
YOU MUST BE DEPENDENT ON HIM

For you and me...

We must come to recognize God really cares for us

He is able to meet our needs

He is willing to meet our needs

We must become totally dependent on Him
YOU MUST BE DEPENDENT ON HIM

For you and me...

God will reward true humility

He hears

He forgives

He heals
YOU MUST BE DEPENDENT ON HIM

Remember...

The more we depend on God the more dependable we find He is.
YOU MUST BE DEPENDENT ON HIM

So, declare your...